


these materials is not in the alternative. The application discloses that this method requires the administration of a drug therapy and then administration of a specialized vaccine. Claim 1 relates to a method of therapeutic genetic immunization, comprising

Step 1) administering an antiretroviral drug therapy until viral replication is effectively suppressed, and then

Step 2) administering a gene delivery complex comprising foreign genetic material and a non-viral vector, wherein the complex has a specific affinity for a receptor on an antigen presenting cell.

Claim 1 is the only independent claim. Claims 3-14 further limit the type of vaccine. Claims 15-21 further limit the drug therapy. The election by the applicants reflects their desire to focus for the present on the use of the materials of subclaims 3-14 in the method of Claim 1.

Respectfully Submitted,



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¹ This response is being forwarded by fax to Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 by Valerie E. Looper on October 10, 2002, signed 